

C1  
604.  
contacting the supernatant with a second liquid comprising a second nucleic acid binding solid phase, in the presence of a chaotropic agent and in the absence of material containing alcohol groups wherein the second liquid has a composition such that the resulting mixture of supernatant and second liquid allows for binding of the single stranded nucleic acid to the second solid phase.

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38. (Amended) A method for separating single stranded nucleic acid from double stranded nucleic acid, comprising the steps of:

C2  
contacting a mixture comprising both single stranded and double stranded nucleic acid with a first liquid comprising a chaotropic agent and a nucleic acid binding solid phase in the absence of material containing alcohol groups, wherein the first liquid has a composition such that the double stranded nucleic acid binds to the solid phase;

separating the solid phase from a supernatant containing the single stranded nucleic acid; and

contacting the supernatant with a second liquid comprising a second nucleic acid binding solid phase, in the presence of a chaotropic agent, a chelating agent and divalent positive ions and in the absence of material containing alcohol groups, wherein the second liquid has a composition such that the resulting mixture of supernatant and second liquid allows for binding of the single stranded nucleic acid to the second solid phase.

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44. (Amended) A method for separating single stranded nucleic acid from double stranded nucleic acid, comprising the steps of:

C3  
contacting a mixture comprising both single stranded nucleic acid and double stranded nucleic acid with a first liquid comprising a chaotropic agent and a nucleic acid binding solid phase in the absence of material containing alcohol groups, wherein the first liquid has a composition such that the double stranded nucleic acid binds to the solid phase;

separating the solid phase from a supernatant containing the single stranded nucleic acid; and